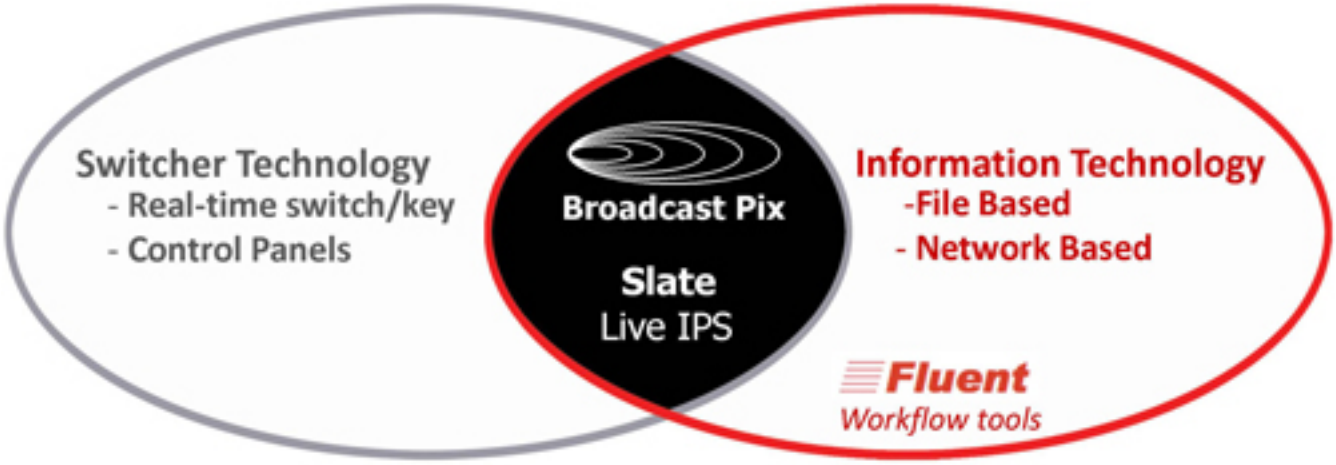
Broadcast Pix

Fluent Workflow Tools

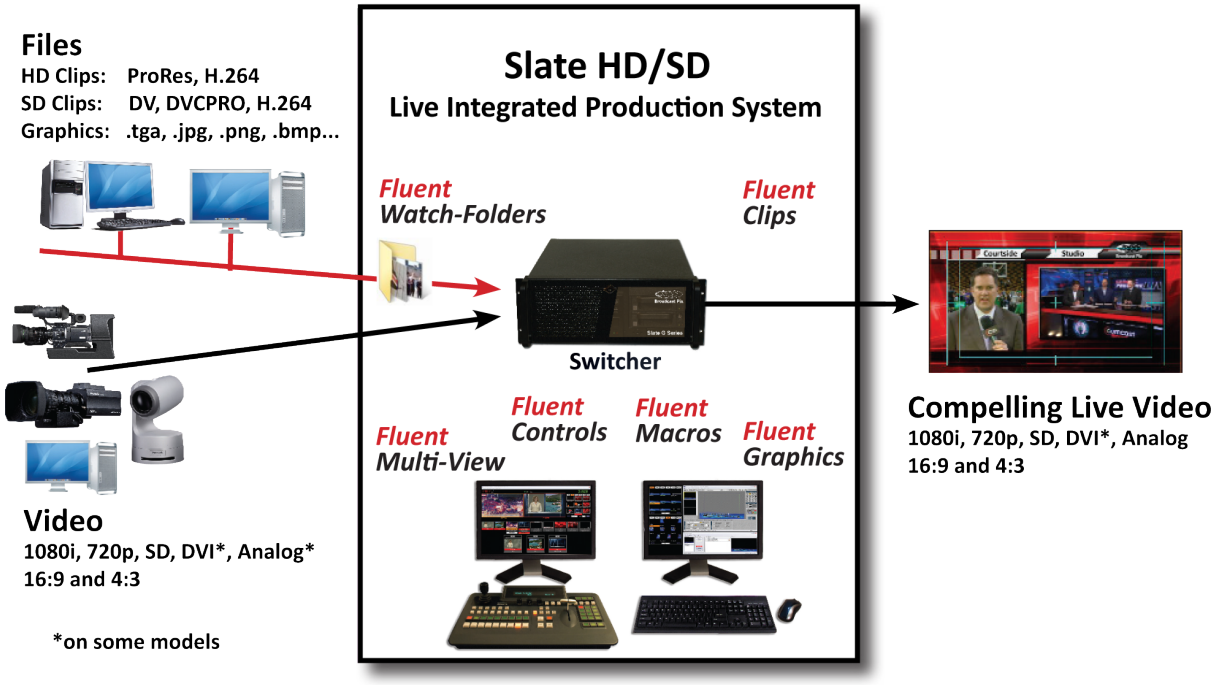
Fluent makes a Switcher a Live Integrated Production System

Fluent makes a Broadcast Pix Slate system into an integrated production system. Two worlds of technology are combined. Traditional production switcher technology provides the powerful switching engine that layers many streams of real time video, and the fast action control panels needed manage it. Contemporary information technology provides the file-based and network based workflow tools, and Broadcast Pix has developed an entire suite of these called Fluent. The Broadcast Pix Slate Series combines a great switcher and these exceptional Fluent workflow tools to create the world's leading live integrated production systems,. It is the easiest and most cost effective way to create compelling live video.



Fluent Workflow Tools

Many Fluent workflow tools are contained in every Broadcast Pix Slate system. Fluent clips and graphics provide the foundation, and these are fed from all over the studio via Fluent Watch-Folders, and content is then combined with switcher moves in Fluent Macros. The Fluent Multi-View goes way beyond conventional multi-views to display file-based information, and Fluent control network out to control robotic cameras, servers and audio mixers.

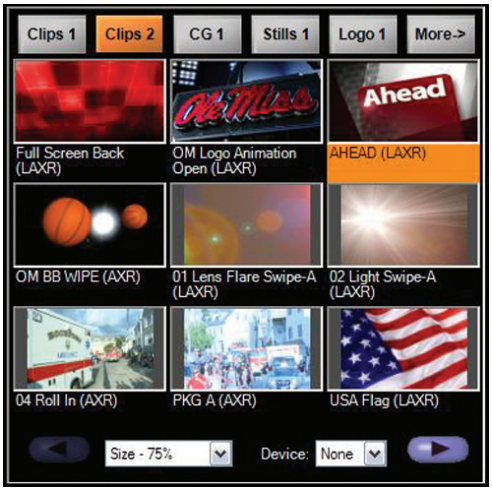


Create Compelling Live Video

Fluent Clips

Every Slate system include a powerful Clip store, which holds up to 200 hours of clips and animations. It's a great place to keep opens, closes, bumpers, or any clips. It can import QuickTime clips (.mov files encoded in DV, DVC PRO, H.264, ProRes). It can also record and play digital uncompressed clips. And in addition to clips, the clip store can also play animations for intricately moving graphics or spinning logos. Clips can have a key (alpha) and audio. Fluent Clips is highly integrated with the rest of the Slate system, and content can flow into it from your favorite editing and graphics systems with Fluent Watch-Folders.

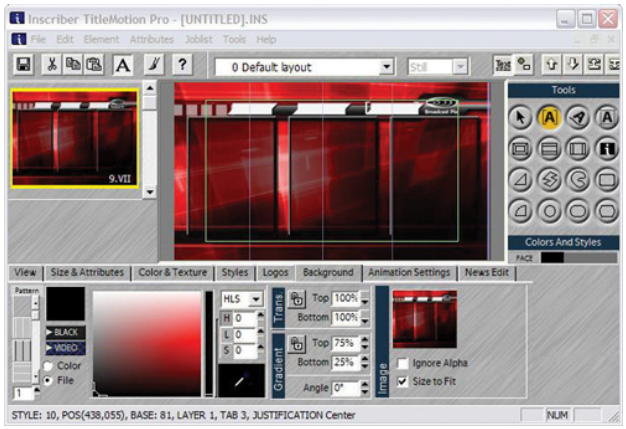
Thumbnails of the clips are tiled on the Fluent Multi-View on the system's computer monitor. As shown at the right, the system can have two independent channels of clip stores. For example, the second channel could hold additional clips and some animations.



Fluent Graphics

Fluent Graphics is includes with every Slate system, and includes 5 channels of Graphics and a Harris Inscriber TitleMotion CG (Character Generator. Use the CG to prepare graphics before going on air, or even edit them during an on-air production. Or import graphics, with key(alpha), from your favorite graphics system, including .tga, .jpg, .png and other formats. Fluent Watch-folders streamlines the import of graphics, even during the middle of a live production. You can also attach a conventional external CG to the Broadcast Pix system, with optional external key support, which is standard on the Slate 5000.

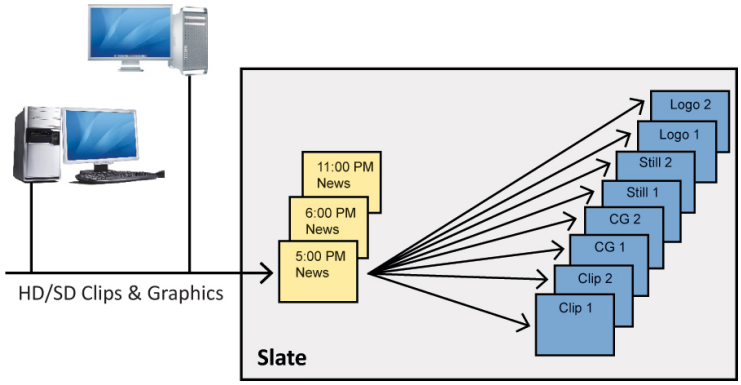
The names and numbers of each title appear on the panel's PixButtons for rapid recall, such as the PixPad shown at the right, which indicates that the title "Men's Crew" is on the air. The name of each title also appears on the panel's PixButtons for each keyer and source, so you always know what title you get when you take it to air. You can open up multiple title stores, to use two or three titles simultaneously. For example, use three at once for a lower third, a logo, plus crawling text along the bottom. All standard on a Broadcast Pix system. And when you want a dedicated graphics operator, just add a second monitor.



Fluent Watch-Folders

Unlike conventional switchers that take only video inputs, Slate systems can input video and files. This greatly streamlines live production workflow, by enabling clips and graphics to be sent over a network from edit stations or graphics systems to the Slate system, even during the middle of a live production. No need to wait to record a clip onto a server. No need to have a separate clip operator cueing the clip. The clip just appears on Slate's multi-view and its name appears on the control panel's PixButton, and it can be set to auto-start upon going to air.

Slate uses innovative Watch-Folders, which automatically adds content to your show. For example, you might have one Watch-Folder for the 6 o'clock news program, and one for the 9 o'clock. Editors simply send the content over a network into the correct Watch-Folder and it is automatically added to that show, even late breaking news that comes in during a news cast. Data flows in without taking time to do file conversion, as Slate handles many HD and SD native formats. With more than 1 TB of storage capacity, Slate accepts large clip files.



Watch-Folders

Macro Creator makes editing easy.

Create Compelling Live Video

Fluent Macros

Powerful Macros recall a sequence of moves, which can include every switcher move as well all the integrated devices. Fluent Macros even remember file names, while conventional switchers cannot remember names of any graphics or clips. For example, with one press you can select a camera on preview, change its preset position, bring it to air, fade on its specific title from the CG store, and fade off the title. Record Macros by pressing the sequence of desired buttons, and then fine tune them on the comprehensive graphical user interface shown.

Macro Creator makes editing easy.

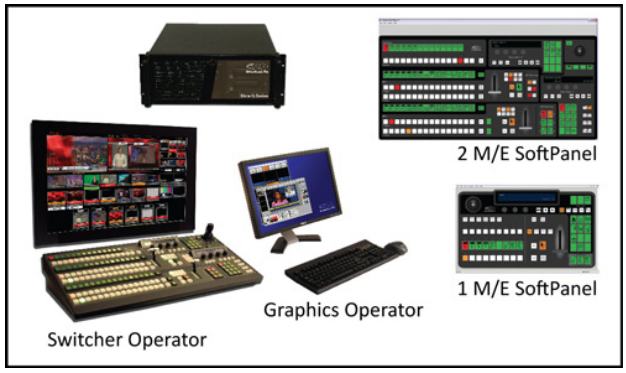
Fluent Multi-View

All Slate systems include Fluent Multi-View, which provides more comprehensive monitoring than any multi-view system. Unlike conventional multi-views that only provide monitoring of sources and program and preview outputs, Fluent Multi-View also includes a wide variety of file-based and other workflow tools.

Unlike conventional multi-views, Slate provides unprecedented feedback to the switcher operator. No other multi-view monitors the contents of keyers. Thumbnails of any channel of clip or graphics store are displayed in a PixPad that corresponds to the control panel's PixPad, and attributes are shown like whether a clip has been set to auto-start. There are clocks, a stop-watch clip counters and title safe zone overlays. And you are notified when new content arrives in Slate's watch-folders from other parts of your studio.

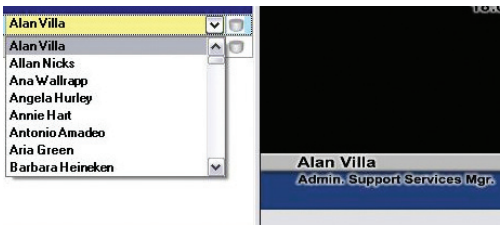
Fluent Teams

Slate is exceptional for solo use, and also gracefully expands to team use. Some productions, like live sports, have so much spontaneous action that a separate graphics operator is needed. All Slate systems support two monitors. The switcher operator can use one monitor for the multi-view with panel, and the graphics operator can use the other with keyboard and mouse. For more team members add the quad monitor option, and more SoftPanels which can open in a browser on a PC or Mac. The panels can be independent so one person can be on a clip store, while another is on a still store, another on a CG, etc. Operators can be anywhere on the network – in the studio, in the back room, even thousands of miles away. A 2 M/E SoftPanel can even be added to a 1 M/E system for a compact affordable 2 M/E system (option 105).

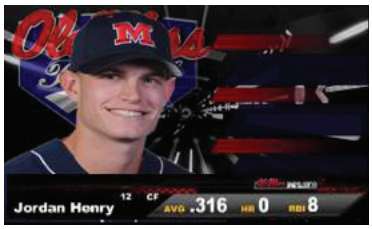


Fluent CG Connect - Option

CG Connect links an Inscriber CG template to a database. Just create the template you want, and tie its elements to a database on the Slate system, or to another computer on the network. Then select the data you want and it will automatically and instantly fill the CG page, even when on-air. Now when you have a database of names and titles, you do not have to re-key them. It's also great in all live sports applications, to keep score, or select a player and get all his or her stats and related graphics. You can even insert a clock into a CG page, and it will update on-air automatically. CG Connect works with XML or Microsoft Access databases (.mdb).



Automatically fill a CG template from a database. Just click on the name, and both the name and title will fill, even on air.



CG Connect is great for all sports, and can do scores, and graphics

Create Compelling Live Video

Fluent Camera Control - Option

Now you can add camera control to any of the Broadcast Pix Studio systems, including all our 1 M/E and 2 M/E versions. The Fluent Camera Control options enable the Broadcast Pix control panel to control camera position and lens. The entire range of Slate systems can control of up to 9 or more robotic cameras directly from the Broadcast Pix panel, simplifying single-operator control of the entire studio.

The panel's PixButtons can control preset positions and the name of each preset position can be on the button. These buttons can also set the speed and movement range of panning and tilting. The panel's 3D joystick manually control a selected camera's pan, tilt and zoom. And its knobs can control focus, iris and other settings.

Fluent Audio Control - Option

For the ultimate one man band, add optional Fluent Audio Control software to the Slate system to enable it to automatically control an audio mixer.

This Audio-Follow-Video software enables an audio mixer to automatically follow all action on the Slate video switcher. Unlike conventional switchers that utilize antiquated ESAM2 protocols for audio follow, Slate uses MIDI (Musical Instrument Digital Interface), so it works with most audio mixers including Yamaha and Roland, and is more affordable and yet much more powerful. As each video source goes to air, it triggers commands on the mixer to turn on various audio inputs. It can even trigger an entire mixer scene memory, including volume, fade, pan and effects like echo and reverb.

Fluent Server Control - Option

The Fluent Server control option can control video server, including the System 360 and the Harris Nexio. Each channel in the sever can be controlled from Slate control panels device controls. The names of each clip in the sever appear on the PixButtons, so you always know what clip you are getting. And these names appear in the panel's PixPad and in the source and key buttons. You can use the control panel's motion button to play, start and stop each clip. It uses a VDCP powerful protocol.

Fluent Shared Router - Option

Two systems can share a central router by adding a Slate G 1000 or 100 to a Slate G 3032 or 5032 (as shown) switcher, and adding optional software (option 150). For larger facilities, this greatly simplifies wiring and lowers cost.

This workflow configuration provides separate control points with a common group of cameras and other sources, for example for simultaneously producing TV and internet shows. These kinds of multi-mode productions typically create different size shows, which require different graphics approaches. Other examples are TV and projection, and Internet and mobile, and TV and mobile (shown).

Create Compelling Live Video

www.broadcastpix.com
1-978-600-1100

Broadcast Pix

© 2009 Broadcast Pix, Fluent and Slate are trademarks of Broadcast Pix, Inc. Billerica MA, USA. Specifications subject to change. Patented. Made in USA